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COMMITTEE ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

Fifth session

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 130th MEETING

Held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva,
on Friday, 28 January 1994, at 4 p.m.

Chairperson: Mrs. BADRAN

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Report of the Committee on its fifth session and biennial report of the Committee on its activities

Adoption of the biennial report of the Committee to the General Assembly

Closure of the session

This record is subject to correction. COLLECTION

Corrections should be submitted in one of the working languages. They should be set forth in a memorandum and also incorporated in a copy of the record. They should be sent within one week of the date of this document to the Official Records Editing Section, room E.4108, Palais des Nations, Geneva.

Any corrections to the records of the meetings of the Committee at this session will be consolidated in a single corrigendum, to be issued shortly after the end of the session.

GE.94-15449 (E)

The meeting was called to order at 4.40 p.m.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ITS FIFTH SESSION AND BIENNIAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ITS ACTIVITIES (agenda item 13) (CRC/C/24 and A/49/41)

1. The CHAIRPERSON announced that the Rapporteur, Mrs. Santos País, would submit for adoption the Committee's draft concluding observations on the reports of States parties considered at the current session (CRC/C/15/Add.13 to 17), the Committee's draft report on its fifth session (CRC/C/24) and, finally, the Committee's biennial report to the General Assembly (to be issued as document A/49/41).

2. Mrs. SANTOS PAÍS (Rapporteur) introduced documents CRC/C/15/Add.13 to 17, containing the Committee's draft concluding observations on the initial reports of Mexico (CRC/C/3/Add.11), Namibia (CRC/C/3/Add.12), Romania (CRC/C/3/Add.16) and Belarus (CRC/C/3/Add.14), as well as the draft preliminary observations on the initial report of Colombia (CRC/C/8/Add.3). She recalled that the Committee had decided to adopt preliminary observations for Colombia, pending the receipt of that country's written replies to the list of issues transmitted by the Committee and additional information on the subjects of particular concern set out in section D of the preliminary observations (CRC/C/15/Add.15).

3. The CHAIRPERSON said that, if she heard no objection, she would take it that the Committee wished to adopt the concluding observations on the initial reports of Mexico, Namibia, Romania and Belarus and the preliminary observations on the initial report of Colombia.

4. It was so decided.

5. Mrs. SANTOS PAÍS (Rapporteur) said that, before submitting to the Committee the draft report on its fifth session (CRC/C/24), she wished to point out that the Committee's biennial report to the General Assembly, summarizing the Committee's principal activities over a period of two years, would cover both the activities described in the report of the Committee on its fifth session, which was shortly to be adopted, and the activities outlined in the report of the Committee on its fourth session (CRC/C/20). That having been said, she introduced the draft report on the Committee's fifth session, commenting briefly on the four main chapters, namely, conclusions and recommendations adopted by the Committee, organizational and other matters, reports by States parties under article 44 of the Convention and overview of the other activities of the Committee.

6. Mr. KOLOSOV proposed that chapter IV, section A, part 3, entitled "Action taken by the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session", should become the chapter heading, in view of the importance of the measures in question. He further proposed that section B of the same chapter, entitled "Cooperation with other competent bodies", should be renamed "Cooperation with Interpol", since that portion of the report dealt exclusively with the Committee's cooperation with that organization.

7. Those proposals were adopted.

8. Mrs. BELEMBAOGO proposed that no mention should be made of those amendments in the action line on the adoption of the report, since they did not affect its substance.

9. It was so decided.

10. The report of the Committee on its fifth session (CRC/C/24) was adopted.

ADOPTION OF THE BIENNIAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY (A/49/41)

11. Mrs. SANTOS PAÍS introduced the Committee's biennial report, which summarized the Committee's work at its second, third, fourth and fifth sessions. The report consisted of four chapters: conclusions and recommendations adopted by the Committee; organizational and other matters; reports by States parties under article 44 of the Convention; and overview of the other activities of the Committee. For lack of time, she had been unable to finalize chapter IV, but assured members of the Committee that they would receive the final text as soon as possible, and certainly before the report was submitted to the General Assembly. The chapter contained nothing that had not already been approved by the Committee.

12. Mr. KOLOSOV said it was most unfortunate that the report failed to mention the exchange of correspondence between the Committee and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) relating to the situation of children in that country. He was nevertheless prepared to endorse the report.

13. The Committee's biennial report on its work (to be issued as document A/49/41) was adopted.

CLOSURE OF THE SESSION

14. After the customary exchange of courtesies, the CHAIRPERSON declared the session closed.

The meeting rose at 6.10 p.m.

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COMMITTEE ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

Sixth session

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE FIRST PART (PUBLIC)*
OF THE 131st MEETING

Held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva,
on Tuesday, 5 April 1994, at 10.30 a.m.

Chairperson: Miss MASON

CONTENTS

Opening of the session

Adoption of the agenda

Organizational and other matters

Submission of reports by States parties in accordance with article 44 of the Convention

* No summary record was prepared for the second part (closed) of the meeting.

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GE.94-16026 (E)

The meeting was called to order at 10.40 a.m.

OPENING OF THE SESSION

1. The CHAIRPERSON declared open the sixth session of the Committee on the Rights of the Child and welcomed the members of the Committee.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA (agenda item 1) (CRC/C/25)

2. The CHAIRPERSON said that, if she heard no objection, she would take it that the Committee wished to adopt the annotated provisional agenda, contained in document CRC/C/25.

3. The provisional agenda was adopted.

ORGANIZATIONAL AND OTHER MATTERS (agenda item 2)

4. After a brief discussion in which Mrs. BELEMBAOGO, Mrs. SANTOS PAIS and Mr. HAMMARBERG took part, the CHAIRPERSON suggested that, if members so agreed, the Committee would reconvene in closed session at the end of the public part of the meeting to consider the programme of work for the session and, in particular, any alterations to be made to the proposed schedule of work.

5. It was so decided.

SUBMISSION OF REPORTS BY STATES PARTIES IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 44 OF THE CONVENTION (agenda item 3)

6. Mrs. RAADI-AZARAKHCHI (Secretary of the Committee) said that France, Norway and Burkina Faso had confirmed that they would, in principle, be represented by high-level delegations for the consideration of their reports. She regretted that Mr. Kazmi, head of the delegation of Pakistan, who was to have presented his country's report, was unable to come to Geneva and had had to be replaced at the last minute by members of the Pakistan Mission. With regard to the questions put by the Committee in its lists of issues to be addressed during the consideration of reports, the secretariat had received written replies from Pakistan and Norway. She reminded the Committee that, since the fifth session, the secretariat had received the initial reports of the Holy See (CRC/C/3/Add.27), the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (CRC/C/11/Add.1) and Sri Lanka (CRC/C/8/Add.13). Of the 37 reports before the Committee, 16 had already been considered and 3, those of Indonesia, Rwanda and Colombia, had been the subject of preliminary consideration. The secretariat had also received additional information from Indonesia (CRC/C/3/Add.26) and El Salvador (CRC/C/3/Add.28). Mexico and Colombia had sent written replies to the questions raised during the consideration of their reports at the fifth session, but Colombia had not yet submitted the supplementary report requested by the Committee.

7. Mr. HAMMARBERG said that it would perhaps be useful to specify the nature of the information sought from each country so as to avoid any confusion between the additional information supplied in reply to written questions by the Committee and information supplied at the concluding observations stage.

8. The CHAIRPERSON suggested that the Committee might, at the end of each session, send out an official letter confirming the information it wished to receive from each country.

9. Mrs. SANTOS PAIS said that, at its fifth session, the Committee had stressed the importance of follow-up to the consideration of reports submitted under article 44 of the Convention. In her view, the Committee should take a firmer stand with regard to the implementation of follow-up measures and should if necessary remind States parties of their obligations to the Committee.

10. The CHAIRPERSON proposed that the public part of the meeting should be concluded in order to allow members of the Committee to consider at a closed meeting the schedule of work for the session under agenda item 2.

11. The first part (public) of the meeting rose at 11 a.m. The second part (closed) was not covered by a summary record.